

WESTFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, March 10, 2005

The Westfield Town Council met in special session on Thursday, March 10, 2005 in the Assembly Room at the Westfield Town Hall at 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana. The purpose of the special council meeting was to introduce the annexation proposal that encompasses a portion of southwest Washington Township.

Members present from the Westfield Town Council were President Teresa Otis Skelton, Robert Smith, Ron Thomas, Jack Hart and David Mikesell. Also present were Jerry Rosenberger, Town Manager, and Brian Zaiger, town legal counsel.

Opening of Meeting:

President Teresa Otis Skelton opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and explained the single purpose of the special town council meeting. She turned the meeting over to Jerry Rosenberger, Town Manager. Mr. Rosenberger introduced state senator Jeff Drozda who has been instrumental in facilitating the collection of signatures for a remonstrance against the initial Carmel annexation proposal and for a request to be annexed by the Town of Westfield.

Senator Drozda announced that the 65% remonstrance level had been reached with regard to the initial Carmel annexation proposal. In addition he announced that the signatures desiring annexation into Westfield were at the 55% level for the annexation area recommended by Westfield. He publicly thanked all of the numerous volunteers who have spent significant time since October of 2004 to collect these signatures.

New Business:

Introduction of annexation plans for a portion of southwest Washington Township

Jerry Rosenberger then presented information regarding the annexation proposal that will come before the Town Council on April 11, 2005. March 10, 2005, is the date that the Council agreed would be the introduction date of this annexation ordinance in their previous ordinance 04-37. He explained that this evening's event is described as a "Community Introduction" of the annexation plan that will be in the form of an ordinance to be presented on April 11, 2005. The fiscal plan for the annexation ordinance will also be presented during the April 11, 2005 council meeting.

He indicated that the proposed annexation would total 3312 parcels and have an approximate assessed value of \$625,560,000. The audience was provided with detailed information regarding the specific elements of the proposed annexation that include: 1) effective date of the annexation; 2) tax abatement; 3) agricultural exemption; 4) date of first property taxes; 5) redistricting of council districts; 6) Creation of Advisory Board; 7) Land use and zoning changes; and 8) Impact of projects/School Board review.

Jerry then presented a timetable of the annexation which begins with the ordinance introduction on April 11, 2005 and concludes with the effective date of the annexation on March 10, 2006. He further indicated that the permission of the Carmel City Council is still an issue and is a part of the overall

requirements for the completion of the annexation proposal.

A large map of the proposed annexation area was available for the public to view. All of the public who were present were provided with hard copies of the presentation material that was reviewed by Town Manager, Jerry Rosenberger.

The meeting concluded at 7:45 pm.

Minutes provided by Jerry Rosenberger

Jerry Rosenberger
Town Manager

Town Council President
Teresa Otis Skelton